

K THE "G.O."
Beauties of the Millenium;

IN
FAMILIAR CONVERSATIONS

BETWEEN

TWO FRIENDS,

WHO ARE SUPPOSED TO MAKE THE TOUR OF THE
HOLY LAND IN THAT HAPPY PERIOD.

INTERSPERSED WITH MANY
DELIGHTFUL DESCRIPTIONS.

DESIGNED FOR THE PLEASURE AND IMPROVEMENT OF
THE VIRTUOUS YOUTH OF BOTH SEXES.

THE FIRST DAY's TOUR.

IN WHICH IS CONTAINED
A BRIEF ACCOUNT OF A YOUNG PRINCE IN
THAT GLORIOUS AGE,
AND THE MANNER OF HIS SPENDING A DAY.

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THE

Beauties of the Millennium;

BY

EMILIE CONTESSA

BETWEEN

TWO FRIENDS,

WHO ARE REQUESTED TO MAKE THE POINT OF THE

LAST PAGE IN THIS NEW EDITION.

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THE BEAUTIES
OF
THE MILLENIUM, &c.

ON the first day of the second month, in the year one hundred from the commencement of the Millennium, not long after the great feast of Tabernacles that was observed with such inconceivable joy and magnificence at JEHOVAH SHAMMAH, where deputies from all nations met, for the express purpose of paying their homage to the great King over all the earth, as had been the constant practice ever since the establishment of this glorious

B empire:

empire: one of the happy citizens walked out into the field to meditate, after the gentle toils of the day were over. Calm and serene were his thoughts, there was nothing in his outward or inward state to discompose him. He was about fifty years of age, born and educated under the government of the Lord, and had never known any thing of the reign of sin and iniquity but by hearing and reading; but as he was of a studious turn of mind, he had made himself well acquainted with the history of the ages past, and often took pleasure in conversation to contrast the former days with the present, as that contrast was a perpetual occasion of praise and thanksgiving to God.

The place of his habitation was a most beautiful spot, within the new possession of the tribe of Judah, nearly opposite to where the rivulet Jabbok empties

empties its purling stream into the famous river Jordan.

The air was serene, the sky was clear and cheerful, and the sun, which was descending to the western region, seemed to smile with rays of mildest warmth upon that happy land, whose inhabitants were all righteous, among whom fraud, injustice, and evils of every kind were the greatest strangers.

This good man, in the infancy of his years, was already confirmed in habits of piety and benevolence; he walked forth to pour out his heart to God in heavenly ejaculations and praise: not much unlike what the sublime poet supposes our first parents in their state of innocence, offered to their great Creator.

“ These are thy glorious works, Parent of good ;

“ Almighty, thine this universal frame,

“ Thus wond’rous fair: thyself how wond’rous
then !”

Not long had he concluded his evening song, when by chance he met in his walk one of his most dear and intimate friends: one who had been like him nurtured up from his birth in the purest principles of virtue and goodness, and who always delighted to practise acts of kindness and love.

Those friends, who were nearly of the same age and much alike, had a reciprocal regard for each other, which had often been increased by pleasant conversation, and friendly behaviour, and at this time they seemed to meet with more than common satisfaction; joy sparkled in their eyes, and purest pleasure glowed upon their cheeks, and they saluted one another in the kindest manner, and thus began to discourse.

1st Friend. I am heartily rejoiced to meet you in this pleasant place, and
on

on this sweet evening; I always see you with pleasure, but at this time I find more than common satisfaction in the agreeable interview.

2d Friend. I give you thanks for the kindness which you express to me, and I can say the feelings of my heart are the same towards you, as yours are towards me; I am glad to see you, and am pleased with the thoughts of spending an hour in your company and agreeable conversation, for I never am long with you, but I find myself improved both in knowledge and happiness.

1st Friend. Our kind Creator has so connected our duty and happiness together, that we cannot communicate any good to our fellow creatures, but we feel it returned double into our own bosoms. If I have at any time caused you to feel pleasure in my con-

B 3

versation,

versation, I have derived no less satisfaction from yours, which is in the highest degree pleasing to my mind.

2d Friend. I have been this evening meditating on the goodness of God, till I have been lost in adoration and praise. How glorious is God! and what great things hath he done, from the day when he created man upon the earth, down to these glorious times in which we live!

These are the days of joy and happiness, I never can be thankful enough that I was born in this pleasant land, and in this glorious period, when the Lord has displayed his power, and all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

1st Friend. The conversation you have introduced is delightful: and if God commanded his people in the days of Moses, to speak of their deliverance
out

out of Egypt when they lay down, and when they arose, when they went out, and when they came in, whether at home or abroad, still to make it the subject of their conversation, how much more reason have we to converse on what our eyes behold!

2d Friend. It is indeed matter of constant conversation, as well as praise, and I should not be weary of the subject, though it was to be discoursed upon for many days together.

1st Friend. How exceeding happy are we to have our lot cast in this blessed season, when the Lord reigns over the whole earth, and in this happy land, wherein he has been pleased to make his fixed abode! we have reason to rejoice in the goodness of the Lord, who hath given us the sublime pleasure of seeing with our eyes the actual accomplishment of those grand predictions,

dictions, that for many ages were looked upon as impossible to be ever fulfilled in the manner that we now behold them.

2d Friend. Truly what our eyes behold, is more than a compleat accomplishment of all which God foretold by the mouths of all his holy prophets respecting this happy period. This land that was a wilderness is like Eden, and the desert is become like the garden of the Lord; joy and gladness are now heard therein; thanksgiving and the voice of melody.

1st Friend. This is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes: all words fail to describe the beauty of the glowing scene. Here is found no barren land, unhealthful waters, or infectious air, no pricking bramble, poisonous weed, nor unwholesome fruit grows in the country, no ravenous
bird

bird, voracious beast, or venomous reptile infests this happy land: it abounds in all the solid blessings of life, and is embellished with all the beauties and decorations of nature. There is nothing wanting to consummate the felicity of the numerous inhabitants, who enjoy uninterrupted peace, health, plenty, with the loving favour of God their Lord, and of Jesus Christ their adorable King.

2d Friend. Now we see Jerufalem builded as a city that is at unity with itself: and thither the tribes of Jacob go up, to testify unto Israel, and to give thanks unto the name of the Lord. And not only do we see the tribes of the Lord go up, but all nations of the earth assemble there every year, to worship the great King over all the earth, JEHOVAH God of Hosts, and to keep the feast of tabernacles. Now the

watchmen of Zion see eye to eye, all teachers are exactly agreed in doctrine; there is perfect unity and compleat harmony; no animosities now vex the church, nor wars waste mankind; swords are beaten into plow-shares, and spears into scythes. There is no confused noise, nor garments rolled in blood, all is peace throughout the globe, our Lord and King hath made wars to cease to the end of the earth; he hath broken the bow, and hath cut the spear in funder, and hath burned the chariots of desolation in the fire. These are wonderful things which we behold, and glory to the name of God, who hath so amply fulfilled his promises.

1st Friend. Wherever we look, ten thousand beauties charm our sight; family broils and divisions, which formerly we are told were the greatest plagues

plagues of human life, are known no more, all is harmony and love ; as peace prevails throughout the earth, so also in all the habitations of men. And the vast increase of amiable children of both sexes, educated in the most excellent manner, is truly delightful ; our sons are as plants grown up in their youth ; our daughters are as corner stones, polished after the similitude of a palace. Our garners are full, affording all manner of store ; our sheep bring forth thousands and ten thousands in our streets : our oxen are strong to labour : there is no going in nor going out, there is no complaining in our streets. Happy are we, ten thousand times happy that are in such a case, yea, happy are the people of this land, whose God is the Lord. This is our blessed condition ! What would former generations have given to have

been blessed with one tenth part of the favours that we enjoy? And besides all other blessings, we are filled with gladness and thankfulness of heart, so that we enjoy without the least repining the great goodness which God hath bestowed on us. There is nothing to imbitter our joy; all is delightful, our souls are as watered gardens, and we shall sorrow no more at all.

2d Friend. God has made his mercy known unto us, and blessed us in a glorious manner, and hath caused his face to shine upon us. His way is known upon earth, and his salvation among all nations. The people of the world praise God, yea, all the people praise him. The nations are glad and sing for joy: for the Lord judgeth the people righteously, and governs the nations upon earth. The earth now
yields

yields her increase in the greatest plenty, with but little labour, such vast harvests reward the tiller's gentle toil, as would in former ages have been quite incredible. The land that was formerly barren, and would scarce yield ten fold, now yields two hundred. God, even our own God, blesses us abundantly, and all the ends of the earth fear him, and give glory to his great name.

1st Friend. The wilderness now is become a fruitful field, the desert blossoms like a rose; the glory of Carmel and Sharon is given to it; the barren sands are transformed into fruitful plains, and the wilds and wastes are full of inhabitants: and where neither men nor beasts could formerly exist, now the country is full of well built cities, pleasant villages, and fertile fields, which laugh with abundance.

ance. Where thorns and briers used to grow, now beautiful firs and pleasant myrtles have come up in their room, and are to JEHOVAH for a name, and a perpetual sign that shall not be cut off. The most delightful brooks and streams of living water, now glide through the barren deserts (where the thirsty travellers so frequently perished, as well as their camels, with thirst, heat, and fatigue) whereby the whole face of the country is changed and highly fertilized. The earth now appears to answer the great purpose for which it was made, for it was not created in vain, but formed to be inhabited.

2d Friend. It is not only pleasant to see the changes which have taken place throughout this part of the world, but also to know that they were particularly foretold by the ancient prophets, whose

whose predictions of these times though for many ages totally disregarded or explained away into figures and metaphors, are now compleatly fulfilled.

1st Friend. If it is agreeable to you, we will take a walk along the shores of the eastern sea, formerly called, *the Dead Sea*, and behold the wonders wrought there by the power of God, which are matters of such amazing astonishment to all the world.

2d Friend. With all my heart; for I have long wished to walk round that sea, and behold that fruitful reservoir of fish, from whence this country is so richly supplied with the best of fish of all sorts: and though such numbers of fishermen are constantly spreading forth their nets, and drawing out fish in amazing quantities, yet there is such an infinite increase, that there is a greater plenty now than ever, and
not

not the smallest apparent diminution takes place, but quite the contrary: which is wonderful, considering the continual supply that is drawn from thence.

1st Friend. The little tour that we are going to take will require about twelve days. It is two days journey from this place to the nearest part of the sea, and it will require about eight days journey to surround it at our leisure, and in our return, we will visit our friends at *Jehovah Shammah*, in doing which we shall have the highest pleasure and satisfaction, both in beholding, contemplating, and discoursing on the works of God, and having opportunities of seeing the happy estate of man under the present glorious government. When shall we set out on this pleasant journey?

2d Friend. To morrow at the rising
of

of the sun, if agreeable to you, for I can soon be ready, and my heart glows at the idea of what we shall see and enjoy by the way. In the mean time we will now separate a little while to make the needful dispositions for this agreeable tour: therefore adieu for the present.

FIRST DAY'S TOUR.

The next morning these two friends met just at the rising of the sun, to set off on their journey; the morning was without clouds, as beautiful as can be imagined, and the air was perfumed with the sweet fragrance of flowers, and filled with the lovely melody and warbling of the most beautiful birds.

They set off with the finest flow of spirits, and walked along the King's highway, through pleasant meadows
and

and shady groves, beholding the wonders wrought by the power of the Lord, as was anciently foretold, and now compleatly fulfilled.

The following agreeable discourse passed between them on this day.

1st Friend. It is with the greatest pleasure I meet you this morning, to set off on our pleasant tour, to behold the wonders of God in this land, formerly a barren wilderness, but now made like Eden, and like the garden of the Lord, joy and gladness now abound therein, thanksgiving and the voice of melody.

2d Friend. As the face of the earth is greatly changed from what we are told it formerly was, so are the inhabitants of it also: for now knowledge, virtue, and goodness abound, as much as formerly ignorance, vice, and folly did, yea, it is far more rare to find
vice

vice or immorality in any part of the land now, than once it was to find goodness, truth, and righteousness. The highways were formerly so infested by robbers, plunderers, and murderers, that there was no safety in travelling, but now we may walk all these ways by night and by day, without the smallest obstruction or the least danger. All we meet or overtake are our friends, and the lovers of our Lord: and into whatever house we enter, we are received with all the tokens of love and affection. The very air we breathe is love, and all our labour is delightful.

1st Friend. I have been informed, that in former ages there were not only very few people of serious piety in the world, but that even those few were greatly divided among themselves, and that not only in lesser points,
but

in the more essential matters of religion; and frequently, as I have read, those who professed to be ministers of the gospel, opposed and censured one another; but now Zion's watchmen see eye to eye, they lift up the voice, together do they sing in the ways of the Lord, they all speak the same thing, there is no division among them, they are perfectly joined together in the same mind, and in the same judgment. Those millions who believe, are all one, as the Father and the Son are one, they are of one heart, and one soul, one mind, one judgment, and one accord. There is no uncertainty in the sound of the gospel which the ministers preach, nor the least disagreement in their doctrine. Go where you will, into the numerous houses and places of public worship, and you shall hear nothing but peace and harmony.
love

love and good will, unity of doctrine, and the most solemn and glorious manner of divine service.

2d Friend. These blessings were all foretold by the inspired prophets, as we read in the words of holy writ, but people in former ages paid so little regard to them, that they not only explained them away themselves, but if it happened that any one ventured to believe them true, according to their plain obvious sense, he was ridiculed and treated with the greatest contempt.

1st Friend. How astonishing was that! for what could have been their thoughts of God's truth and faithfulness? For from the very nature of the Great Supreme, it was evident that his promises must have been actually fulfilled, as he made them freely, without which there could have been no expectations

pectations formed from them ; but to suppose, that after the highest ideas had been raised in the human mind, by the gracious and encouraging words of God, that he would totally disappoint them, by not performing what he had promised, was such a dishonourable thought of the infinitely wise, just, and good God, that it appears almost impossible to us, who live in this glorious age, to imagine how it could have prevailed in the world.

2d Friend. Blessed be God, those dark and dreary times are long since gone ; we now see his divine power displayed in such a glorious manner, as formerly could hardly have been conceived. And the journey we are now taking, will afford us much delight and satisfaction, as we shall have an opportunity of contemplating the wonders
of

of God, and seeing with our own eyes the scriptures of the prophecies fulfilled.

They had not proceeded far, when looking on their right hand, they saw a beautiful pasture where a rich variety of flocks and herds were feeding together; the grass was green, beautiful and flourishing, and the sheep with their snowy fleeces seemed almost to cover the plain, and the pretty lambs were frisking beside them with the most playful innocence. But what was most worthy of observation, and what indeed once would have been judged impossible, not only were there sheep and lambs, milch kine and their calves feeding or playing together in the same pasture, but those animals that were formerly ferocious, and that fed upon flesh, all fed quietly, without fear or enmity, with the domestic

meftic animals of the plain. They beheld cows and bears, calves and cubs, young lions and fatlings, tigers and fheep, and all forts of beafts, both of the field and foreft, eating in the moft friendly manner together, or wantonly playing with each other in the moft harmlefs manner, or lying down in the fame grove, and drinking one common ftream. This beautiful view produced the following agreeable difcourfe.

1ft Friend. See! my dear friend, what beauties are here, what wonders do our eyes behold! all different kinds of animals, feeding, playing, and lying down together, without fear or danger. This is the work of God indeed!

2d Friend. Such was the happy ftate of things, in the day when God created man upon the earth at firft, as elegantly defcribed by the Englifh poet.

“ About

“ ————— About them frisking play’d
 “ All beasts of th’ earth, since wild, and of all
 “ chase,
 “ In wood or wilderness, forest or den ;
 “ Sporting the lion ramp’d, and in his paw
 “ Dandled the kid ; bears, tigers, ounces, pards,
 “ Gambol’d before them ; th’ unweildy elephant
 “ To make them mirth us’d all his might, and
 “ with’d
 “ His lithe proboscis : Close the serpent fly,
 “ Insinuating, wove with Gordian twine
 “ His breaded train, and of his fatal guile
 “ Gave proof unheeded : others on the grass
 “ Couch’d, and now fill’d with pasture, gazing sat,
 “ Or bedward ruminating————”

This was the peaceful state of the
 first earthly Paradise, but it lasted not
 long, for as soon as sin entered into
 the world, fear and enmity followed,
 and the beasts threw off their alle-
 giance to man, who had cast off alle-
 giance to his God; as the same Poet
 expresses it :

C

“ But

"———— But discord first,
 " Daughter of sin, among th' irrational,
 " Death introduc'd through fierce antipathy :
 " Beast now with beast 'gan war, and fowl with
 " fowl,
 " And fish with fish ; to graze the herb all leaving,
 " Devour'd each other ; nor stood much in awe
 " Of man, but fled him, or with count'nance
 " grim
 " Glar'd on him passing."

1st Friend. Yes, this blessed change
 was exactly predicted by the highly il-
 luminated prophets, especially Isaiah,
 who spoke of the glories of these times
 as clearly as though he had beheld
 them with his eyes.

" The wolf also shall dwell with
 " the lamb, and the leopard shall lie
 " down with the kid ; and the calf
 " and the young lion and the fatling
 " together ; and a little child shall
 " lead them. And the cow and the
 " bear

“ bear shall feed; their young ones
“ shall lie down together: and the
“ lion shall eat straw like an ox. And
“ the sucking child shall play on the
“ hole of the asp, and the weaned
“ child shall put his hand on the
“ cockatrice den.” Isai. xi. 6, 7, 8.

“ And again, “ The wolf and the
“ lamb shall feed together, and the
“ lion shall eat straw like the bullock;
“ and dust shall be the serpent’s meat.”
chap. lxxv. 25.

How exactly are these lovely predictions accomplished before our eyes! behold in this beautiful pasture, wolves and lambs sporting, playing, and feeding together, without animosity! the leopards and the kids, how pleasantly they lie down together, under yonder green trees! There is a little child, leading a calf and a young lion; see how gentle they are, and how they

follow him like spaniels ! But see he comes this way ; hark, hear him sing ! What a sweet voice ! what a lovely air ! the words how fine ! Let us listen and hear him.

I.

JEHOVAH praise ye, and call on his name,
His words and his works let all men proclaim ;
Let him be exalted as justly is due,
His ways are most holy, most righteous and true.

II.

His hand and his arm have wonders atchiev'd,
His name now is known, the world has receiv'd
The news of salvation, the knowledge of God
In all tongues and nations is now spread abroad.

III.

One Lord reigns on earth, possesses the throne,
The laws of his mouth are ev'ry where known ;
All nations pay homage to Jesus our king,
All kindreds and people choice presents do bring.

IV.

The church is all one, exactly agreed,
From parties and sects the world is now freed :
The watchmen of Zion are all of one mind,
In truth, love and goodness are perfectly join'd.

V. Now

V.

Now peace has took place, fell war is no more,
 Pride, envy, and wrath, and wranglings are o'er;
 All hateful contention is banish'd from earth,
 And love is the language we learn from our birth.

VI.

The beasts have forgot their fierceness and rage,
 No longer for blood fierce war do they wage,
 But peaceably feeding on herbs and green grass,
 They shew what God promis'd is now come to
 pass.

VII.

The trees yield their fruit, the earth her increase,
 Our Saviour hath blest us with plenty and peace;
 The land is a garden, the desert a field,
 The plain is now fruitful, the waters are heal'd.

VIII.

The curse is remov'd, and man is now blest,
 The Lord hath ordain'd this sabbath of rest;
 This peaceable sabbath, so lately begun,
 To ages far distant its circle shall run.

IX

Now praise the great Lord for all that is past,
 His mercy and truth for ever shall last,
 Join then your glad voices, his goodness proclaim,
 All nature rejoices, let us do the same.

2d Friend. What a blessed song is this ! and how exactly it describes the present beautiful state of things on earth ! But see the little child approaches near, with the sweetest pleasure in his countenance, let us enter a little into conversation with him, for God has now ordained praise to himself out of the mouths of babes and sucklings, and has effectually stilled the enemy and the avenger.

1st Friend. (addressing himself to the child) A pleasant morning to you, my dear child ; you seem very happy.

Child. Thank you, kind Sir, how can I be otherwise than happy in the blissful condition in which it has pleased the Lord to place me ?

2d Friend. We know that you are happy, and have abundant reason so to be, but it will give us pleasure to hear from your own dear mouth, what those things

things are which give you such delight and pleasure.

Child. There are so many things that make me happy, that I am unable to reckon them up; but I will mention some of them, which you indeed know better than I, and yet a wish to utter the joy that fills my heart, and to afford you pleasure, makes me attempt to set forth the causes of my happiness. The first thing that gives me, and all the children of this land such joy is, that the blessed Jesus now reigns on earth, and has put an end to the kingdom of sin, and the horrible empire of Satan. My grandfather, who lived before the coming of the Lord, has told me such things of former times as I could hardly have believed, if I had not known that he would not utter the least falsehood for the world. He told me, that when he

was young, little children began to shew the principles of evil as soon as they could speak ; that almost all children were given to lying, were disobedient to their parents, loved foolish sports and pastimes, would soon get angry, and quarrel and fight among themselves, were filled with pride, malice and envy, and often would learn to curse and swear, and take God's name in vain, and were so prone to do mischief that it was almost impossible to restrain them, that they were so cruel to animals, that nothing gave them greater pleasure than to torture them to death in the most barbarous manner ; and not only those that were wild and fierce, but those that were tame and gentle, besides many other crimes which some of them were guilty of, that my grandfather told me were not proper for me so much as to know.

What

What reason then have we to be glad that those times are over, and that children now are exactly the reverse of what they were then !

1st Friend. Ah, my precious child ! the difference is amazing between children then and now ; they seemed in those evil days to be corrupt even from the womb, and to be born full of evil dispositions, which grew stronger and stronger in them as they grew up, and they often appeared ripe for destruction, while they were young in years.

Child. But now God hath taken away our iniquities, we love him from our infancy, and delight to hear of him, and we rejoice to obey our parents, who rule us entirely by love and gentle instructions ; we live in peace and harmony among one another, there are no brawlings, strife, conten-

C. 5

tions,

tions, or quarrels of any kind among us ; we are so far from delighting in mischievous practices, that it is great joy to us when we have an opportunity of doing any good.

2d Friend. I rejoice to hear you speak of the goodness of the Lord, and of his great kindness towards you, which he has made known in these happy days ; truly you and all little children have abundant reason to rejoice, give thanks, and sing, which with pleasure I perceive you do.

Child. I have been told that in former days, when children were wicked, they were afraid of every thing, and lived in almost continual dread : and no wonder, for they were rebels against God their Creator ; but now I have no fear of even these lions and tigers : but God hath wrought as great a change in them as in us, they are no longer

longer fierce and cruel, even as we are no more perverse and disobedient.

1st Friend. Is that your father's spacious mansion yonder on the road before us, surrounded with those beautiful trees ?

Child. Yes, kind Sir, and I am sure that my dear parents will think themselves honoured, if you and your friend will stop and take some refreshment as you pass by ; for we have enough and to spare, our doors are always open to travellers, and we feel the sweetest pleasure imaginable, in entertaining the friends and servants of the Lord our great King.

1st Friend. Let us embrace this opportunity of visiting this worthy family, of whose fame I have often heard, though never had any particular acquaintance with them, further than we have spoken together when we have

occasionally met, especially at the last Feast of Tabernacles, when the father of this child gave me a warm invitation to visit him, which I promised to do, but have not had a convenient opportunity until now.

Thus saying they walked on till they came near the hospitable mansion; it was a noble building of stone, raised soon after the beginning of the Millennium, and built very strong, that it might remain during the whole period; for there is now to be no change of property, it is not to be sold for ever, neither shall enemies any more make inroads here, for the Lord hath given rest unto his people, and nothing shall henceforth molest them.

When they drew near the house they found that the little child had run briskly, and informed his parents that two men were coming, and the master
of

of the family came forth to meet them, and gave them a kind invitation to come in, and partake of what the house afforded, which, on their parts, they willingly accepted.

It was now near eight o'clock, and at this hour the people of these happy ages commonly take their first meal; that which this happy family partook of this morning, and in which these two friends and fellow-travellers shared, may serve for a specimen of the manners of these days.

The table was laid in a beautiful and spacious dining-room, so that the whole family might conveniently sit down to the plenteous but salubrious meal. There was bread of several sorts, among which the fruit of the bread-tree was placed, which fruit is now common in all countries, but is especially exceeding plenteous in this land, now so blessed
of

of God ; there was great plenty of excellent butter, honey, milk, cheese, and such like wholesome diet, and instead of tea brought from China, they had some of the leaves of those trees which grow upon the banks of the wonderful river, which issues from under the threshold of the sanctuary, and runs through the plain country, into the East sea, and which river has long ago healed those waters that were formerly so deadly, and has made them salubrious. The leaves of these trees are so highly medicinal, that an infusion made of them speedily cures all disorders to which the human frame is subject, and preserves the health and strength entire of all who drink of the same, and is most highly delightful both to the smell and taste.

Before they sat down, the master of the house stood and blessed the food in
the

the name of the Lord, in the following manner ; “ O Lord our God, blessed be thy name, that thou hast spread a table for us in so rich and plentiful a manner ; thou hast prepared butter and honey for us to eat, and hast taught us to refuse the evil, and choose the good ; sanctify and bless this food to our nourishment, and our souls and bodies to thy service, and whether we eat or drink, or whatever we do, may we do all in the name of our Lord Jesus, and to the glory of God ;” to which all present answered with a chearful and loud AMEN, and sat down in order, and did eat their food in gladness and singleness of heart. There was such order, harmony, and love, such an air of serenity and heart-felt pleasure on every countenance, as caused universal gladness through all the company ; but what will be more delightful to
hear

Hear is the following agreeable conversation. After they were all seated in order, the master of the house thus addressed the guests :

Master. My brethren and friends, I am happy to see you in my house, and at my table, you are more than welcome to what is before you, with which the Lord has blest me, eat therefore freely, for this is the time when the earth yields her increase, and the trees their fruit, and God, even our own God, blesses us.

1st Friend. Dear Sir, I rejoice to see you in the midst of your family, in this season when children are real blessings, and not as formerly, troubles all their lives long, because of their wickedness, and the miseries, wants, and dangers to which they were exposed. Thou art abundantly blessed, because thou fearest the Lord, and walkest in
his

his ways; thou dost eat in plenty the labour of thine hands; thou art happy, and it is well with thee; thy wife is as a fruitful vine by the sides of thine house; thy children like olive plants round about thy table; thus thou art blessed, because thou fearest the Lord. The Lord doth bless thee, and will continue to bless thee out of Zion, and thou shalt see the good of Jerusalem all the days of thy life, which shall be prolonged like the days of a tree; yea, thou shalt see thy children's children to many generations; and peace shall continue to be upon Israel all thy days.

2d Friend. I heartily join with my brother in pronouncing a blessing on such a family as this. The blessing of the Lord be upon you; we bless you in the name of the Lord. Blessed are ye in the city, when you go up with the tribes of the Lord, to give thanks
unto

unto the name of the Lord ; and blessed are ye in the field, which the Lord hath blessed, and made fruitful unto you, whereof ye may eat in plenty, and never feel nor fear want or scarcity. Ye parents of a goodly race like yourselves, ye are blessed in the fruit of your bodies ; ye do not labour in vain, nor bring forth for trouble : for ye are the seed of the blessed of the Lord, and your offspring with you. You are blessed in the fruit of your ground, from which the curse is removed ; no longer does it bring forth thorns and thistles, briers and noxious weeds, but laughs with abundance. You are blest in the fruit of your cattle, the increase of your kine, and the flocks of your sheep. You are blessed in your basket and your store. You are blessed when you come in, and when you go out.

Master.

Master. May the same blessings which ye have in so charming a manner pronounced upon me and mine, rest and remain upon each of you, and your's, and may your souls be as watered gardens, and as springs of waters that fail not. I heartily thank you for your kind expressions, and feel a sincere pleasure in this interview; I should be glad if you could stay with us a few days, and bless us with your good company.

1st Friend. We give you thanks for your kind invitation, and doubt not but we should enjoy great felicity in such a visit, but we came from our houses this morning with an intention to walk round the eastern sea, to behold the wonders of our God, which he hath done, after which we purpose to go to the city of *Jehovah Shammah*, and see some of our friends there; then we intend

intend to return home through the holy portion : and during the time of this journey we have no doubt of meeting with many pleasant scenes, and having many hours of sweet conversation with each other, and with the many friends that we shall meet in our road, or in the places where we shall visit.

Master. Truly, you have an exceeding agreeable tour before you, and must have an amazing fund of rational and divine entertainment in your journey. You will soon be out of the possession of the tribe of Judah, and will come into that part of the holy land which the Lord hath reserved for the possession of the princes ; there you will see the most wonderful improvements in agriculture and gardening that ever your eyes beheld ; there are gardens in which are all kinds of flowers, and all sorts.

sorts of fruits, which delight both sight, smell and taste. You will see orchards, in which are all kinds of fruit-trees that formerly grew in all the different climates of the world, all growing and flourishing together : and forests in which are all sorts of different trees that are to be found in the world : and shrubberies in which are every kind of shrub in the greatest perfection : and a thousand other beauties that time would fail me to describe. You will find that the princes of our time, in this happy country, are far from having that restless ambition that former princes had ; they are content with the inheritance which the Lord has assigned them, and truly they have a goodly possession on each side of the holy portion. This is their bound, and they are never to claim any subsidy at all from the people of the land, except one lamb of the
flock

flock out of two hundred, out of the fat pastures of Israel: and these are not for their own use, but for the purposes of sacrifices, as God appointed and declared by the mouth of Ezekiel the prophet. I need not attempt to describe the entertainment and pleasure that you will find in passing through this happy country, it will be great beyond expression.

When they had finished their breakfast, and had returned hearty thanks to the Lord, the two friends addressed themselves to their journey, after having received the kindest expressions of sincere love and affection from all present, which they returned with equal warmth.

They went on their way with cheerfulness, delighted at the beautiful prospects which surrounded them on every side: they soon came in sight of the
famous

famous river Jordan, for the road they were to go was but a little distance from that beautiful stream. The beholding this ancient river, on many accounts the most wonderful in the world, caused the first friend to break that agreeable silence in which they had walked ever since they left the hospitable mansion, where they had been so nobly entertained, and so highly delighted.

1st Friend. Seeing this noble, ancient, and renowned river, puts me in mind of the many wonders which have been exhibited here since the beginning of time; the first that demands our consideration, is the driving back of the stream to afford a passage to Joshua and the children of Israel, when they first entered into this land. This was a wonderful display of the Divine power, and plainly shewed that with God nothing

thing is impossible. This river was also divided by the prophet Elisha, when he smote it with the mantle of Elijah, which dropt from him in his ascent to heaven. In this river Naaman, by dipping himself seven times at the command of Elisha, was cleansed from his leprosy; but, above all, in this river our Saviour and King was immersed by the hand of St. John the Baptist, and at that instant what wonders were displayed! The Father, speaking from heaven, said, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." Christ plunged beneath the yielding wave, then coming up out of the water, the Holy Ghost, in bodily shape like a dove, descended from heaven, and rested on his head. Thus this ancient river has been a scene of many wonders in ages past, and especially

cially of late, since the coming of our Lord and Saviour to reign on the earth.

2d Friend. How astonishing it was that this river of fresh water should for so many ages empty itself into the dead salt sea, without producing any change in the water, it still remaining the same deadly stagnant lake.

1st Friend. The healing of the dead sea was by the special appointment of God reserved until the coming of Christ, and was designed to be effected by that miraculous river which sprung from under the threshold of the east gate of the temple, when he first entered in thither ; for no sooner did this river touch the sea, but the waters began to be healed, and in a short time were wholly changed, so as to become as salubrious to life as they were deadly before ; as we shall see when we come to the shores of the same.

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By this time they were come to the borders of the portion of Judah, and entered immediately into the eastern possession of the Prince; for his possession lies on each side of the holy portion, which is an exact square. When they entered here, they were highly delighted with the amazing fertility of the land, the astonishing improvements in agriculture, and the happiness of the labourers and servants of the Prince, who were there employed in the most pleasing and useful labours. There was no quarrelling, fighting, wrangling, grumbling, or discontent; their very countenances were pictures of peace, happiness, and satisfaction. There was no vain, useless, or foolish discourse among them, much less any thing obscene or profane; all their conversation was friendly, virtuous, and edifying. Drunkenness, intemperance, and
debauchery,

debauchery, were not so much as named among them.

The Prince, besides allowing them wages, gives each family a decent neat habitation, and a fertile little spot of ground to cultivate for themselves; and the greater improvements they make the better he is pleased with them; they enjoy these possessions until the year of Jubilee, according to the Lord's express determination, Ezek. xlvi. 17. at which time they may renew the lease for forty-nine years more, or remove, and get possessions of their own in any of the adjacent countries.

The delightful views and agreeable scenes which they passed through this first day of their journey, may be best learned from their conversation.

1st Friend. What a delightful region is this! and how wisely our gracious Lord has ordered this beautiful

glade along by the river Jordan, and another valuable tract of land of the same length on the other side of the holy portion, next to the Mediterranean sea, to be the fixed possession of the Prince, and his descendants for ever !

2d Friend. The Lord is wise in all his ways, and holy in all his works ! and since Jesus our great and universal Sovereign has begun his reign on earth, there is no longer any confusion, disorder, or oppression. The Princes no longer oppress the people of the land, as in former ages : and this beautiful inheritance is given unto them, that they may never have so much as a temptation to exact any thing from their brethren, nor in the least to oppress the people.

1st Friend. This was the design of God, when he appointed this part of
the

the land for the inheritance of the Prince, as appears from the original charter, contained in the prophecy of Ezekiel.

“ And a portion shall be for the
“ Prince on the one side, and on the
“ other side of the oblation of the holy
“ portion, and of the possession of the
“ city, before the oblation of the holy
“ portion, and before the possession of
“ the city, from the west side west-
“ ward, and from the east side east-
“ ward: and the length shall be over
“ against one of the portions, from the
“ west border unto the east border. In
“ the land shall be his possession in Is-
“ rael; and my Princes shall no more
“ oppress my people; and the rest of
“ the land shall they give to the house
“ of Israel according to their tribes.
“ Thus saith Adonai JEAOVAH, Let
“ it suffice you, O Princes of Israel;

“ remove violence and spoil, and execute judgment and justice, take away your exactions from my people, saith Adonai JEHOVAH.” Ezek. xlv. 7, 8, 9.

And the same is again repeated in Chap. xlviii. 21. 22. “ And the residue shall be for the Prince, on the one side, and on the other of the holy oblation, and of the possession of the city, over against the five and twenty thousand toward the east border, and westward over against the five and twenty thousand toward the west border, over against the portions for the Prince: and it shall be the holy oblation, and the sanctuary of the house shall be in the midst thereof. Moreover from the possession of the Levites, and from the possession of the city, being in the midst of that which is
“ the

“ the Prince’s, between the border of
“ Judah, and the border of Benjamin
“ shall be for the Prince.”

The Prince having this ample possession is forbidden to alienate it, or to have any possession among the tribes.

“ Thus saith JEHOVAH Elohim ; If
“ the Prince give a gift unto any of
“ his sons, the inheritance thereof shall
“ be his sons : it shall be their possession by inheritance. But if he give
“ a gift of his inheritance to one of his
“ servants, then it shall be his to the
“ year of liberty ; after, it shall return
“ to the Prince : but his inheritance
“ shall be his sons for them. Moreover the Prince shall not take of the
“ people’s inheritance by oppression, to
“ thrust them out of their possession ;
“ but he shall give his sons inheritance out of his own possession ; that
“ my people be not scattered, every

“man from his possession.” Chap. xlvii.
16, 17, 18.

These just and equitable laws, give the Princes a glorious possession, while they equally secure the people in the enjoyment of their inheritances. Thus tyranny, injustice, and oppression, are known no more. The reign of righteousness is now fully come. The kingdom is the *Lord's*; and he is the governor among the nations.

2d Friend. We may very easily discern that this land is under the best and mildest government, and the most equitable laws, by its amazing fertility, and the happiness of its inhabitants. For oppression turns the most fruitful land into a barren soil, while on the other hand, the most barren land grows fertile under a mild and good government. How highly cultivated and fertile

tile is this possession of the Prince !
What orchards of all kinds of fruit
growing together all the year round !
Here is that plant of renown, the bread
fruit-tree, which alone prevents all fear
of famine and hunger for ever ; as a
small number of these trees, which
may be planted in a few hours time,
upon a quarter of an acre of ground,
will yield bread enough for the support
of a large family. This famous tree
was for many ages confined to the
countries and islands in the Southern
Ocean ; and then with great difficulty
brought to the West Indies, and plant-
ed there ; but now it will grow in all
countries without much care or labour ;
and here see how it grows in the most
luxuriant manner ; and yields a most
astonishing quantity of food !

The palm-tree, was formerly a na-
tive of this land, and was, taken toge-

ther, the most valuable tree in the world, as it produced both food, drink, cloathing, and many useful articles, in-
fomuch that it was observed by an an-
cient poet,

“ The Indian tree alone,

“ Is meat and trencher, drink and can,

“ Boat, cable, fail, and needle, all in one.”

It used to be affirmed, that a vessel might be completely built, rigged, provided, and freighted with this tree and its produce. But this valuable tree was then reared and nursed with great difficulty, and had many enemies; but now it grows every where, beautifying and enriching the country. The fig-tree, the olive-tree, and the fruitful vine, those former tenants of this land, now flourish here in a manner that they never did before; yielding their fruit in the greatest plenty, all the year round, by which all scarcity is for
ever

ever prevented. The apple-tree, the peach-tree, the pear-tree, the plumb-tree, the cherry-tree, the orange-tree, and all the fruit-trees here flourish together in the most glorious manner. And in these beautiful parks all sorts of trees are planted and flourish, as God promised by the prophet Isaiah long ago, saying, “ I will plant in the wilderness the cedar, the shittah tree, “ and the myrtle, and the oil-tree : I “ will set in the desert the fir-tree, “ and the pine, and the box-tree together : That they may see, and “ know, and consider, and understand together, that the hand of “ JEHOVAH hath done this, and the “ Holy One of Israel hath created “ it.” Isai. xli. 19, 20.

Here we may satisfy ourselves, by beholding that prophecy fulfilled. These are the works of the Lord, and

shall remain as signs that cannot deceive, and which shew that all God's words shall be accomplished.

1st Friend. Behold also the fields, from which they have gathered in such a rich harvest, and are now plowing and sowing again ! the plenty which the earth yields, fulfils the words of the prophets.

“ Fear not, O land ; be glad and rejoice : for JEHOVAH will do great things. Be not afraid, ye beasts of the field : for the pastures of the wilderness do spring, for the tree beareth her fruit, the fig-tree and the vine do yield their strength. Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in JEHOVAH your God : for he hath given you the former rain moderately, and he will cause to come down for you the rain, the former rain, and the latter rain in
“ the

“ the first month. And the floors
“ shall be full of wheat, and the fats
“ shall overflow with wine and oil.
“ And ye shall eat in plenty, and be sa-
“ tisfied, and praise the name of JEHO-
“ VAH your God that hath dealt won-
“ drously with you : and my people
“ shall never be ashamed. And ye
“ shall know that I am in the midst
“ of Israel, and that I am JEHOVAH
“ your God, and none else ; and my
“ people shall never be ashamed.” Joel,
ii. 21, 22, 23, 24, 26, 27.

“ Behold the days come, saith JEHO-
“ VAH, that the plowman shall over-
“ take the reaper, and the treader of
“ grapes him that soweth seed ; and
“ the mountains shall drop sweet wine,
“ and all the hills shall melt. And I
“ will bring again the captivity of my
“ people of Israel, and they shall build
“ the waste cities, and inhabit them :
“ and

“ and they shall plant vineyards, and
“ drink the wine thereof; they shall
“ also make gardens, and eat the fruit
“ of them. And I will plant them
“ upon their land, and they shall no
“ more be pulled up out of the land
“ which I have given them, saith JEHO-
“ VAH thy God.” Amos, ix. 13, 14, 15.

These glorious prophecies, how amply they are now fulfilled before our eyes!

Here they walked along by the sweetest groves of all sorts of trees, pleasant both to the sight and smell; and on the other hand, were gardens, vineyards, olive yards, and orchards of all kinds of fruits, in the highest perfection. The river was in sight, at a little distance from the road on the left hand, and which added greatly to the beauty and variety of the scene, close by the river side was planted a row of trees,
which

which sending down their roots to the water, were always supplied with abundant moisture, and flourished and spread themselves abroad in a most beautiful manner. These trees were planted by the order of the Prince soon after the division of the land, and being now nearly an hundred years old, they were grown to a great height, and consisted of lofty firs, cedars, pines, oaks, &c. useful for building, as well as delightful to the sight while growing.

2d Friend. The sight of these trees planted by the river, and which flourish in such an astonishing manner, puts me in mind of those beautiful descriptions given in the Scriptures, of the righteous, and those who trust in the Lord.

As in Psalm i. 1, 2, 3. “Blessed is
“the man that walketh not in the
“counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth
“in

“ in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in
 “ the seat of the scornful. But his
 “ delight is in the law of JEHOVAH;
 “ and in his law doth he meditate day
 “ and night. And he shall be like a
 “ tree planted by the rivers of water,
 “ that bringeth forth his fruit in his
 “ season: his leaf also shall not wither,
 “ and whatsoever he doeth shall prof-
 “ per.”

Psalm xcii. 12, 13, 14, 15. “ The
 “ righteous shall flourish like the palm
 “ tree: he shall grow like a cedar in
 “ Lebanon. Those that be planted in
 “ the house of JEHOVAH, shall flourish
 “ in the courts of our God. They
 “ shall still bring forth fruit in old
 “ age; they shall be fat and flourish-
 “ ing: To shew that JEHOVAH is up-
 “ right, he is my rock, and there is
 “ no unrighteousness in him.”

Jer. xvii. 7, 8. “ Blessed is the
 “ man

“ man that trusteth in JEHOVAH, and
“ whose hope JEHOVAH is. For he
“ shall be like a tree planted by the
“ waters, and that spreadeth out her
“ roots, by the river; and shall not
“ see when heat cometh; but her leaf
“ shall be green, and shall not be care-
“ ful in the year of drought, neither
“ shall cease from yielding fruit.”

1st. Friend. These are charming descriptions, and beautifully illustrated by what our eyes behold. The righteous may be truly called, The plants of God's own planting: they shall be called, “ Trees of righteousness, “ The planting of the Lord, that he “ may be glorified.” *Isai. lxi. 3.* Righteousness was formerly very rare, while wickedness abounded and overspread the land, and shewed itself in almost every place; but the scene is now changed; wickedness hides its head

head in the dust, but righteousness and praise spring forth before all nations. It is now far more rare to find iniquity, than it was ages ago to find goodness and virtue. We have our lot in this blessed season, when Jesus our Lord reigns, whose glorious kingdom and government is so excellently described by King David in Psalm lxxii. which if you please we will join and sing.

2d Friend. With all my heart; for my soul overflows with joy and gladness, and I long to vent myself in praise. This Psalm once delivered, and for ages sung as a prophecy, we will now sing as a true history, of what has already taken place, and is daily fulfilling in the world.

I.

King Jesus doth reign, and governs the land,
The sceptre doth sway with just equal hand;

Now

Now righteousness, truth, love and goodness increase ;
The hills and the mountains bring justice and peace.

II.

Oppression and fraud and thrall are no more ;
The needy he saves, he ransoms the poor :
The people he judges, his judgment is just,
Proud haughty oppressors he treads in the dust.

III.

Thy name, blessed Lord, is lov'd and rever'd,
Wherever thy truth thy Gospel is heard ;
Through all future ages thy glory shall run,
Thy praise shall continue as long as the sun.

IV.

Thy blessings like rain descend on the earth,
Like showers which to grass, flowers, plants,
fruits, give birth.
Now flourish the righteous, and peace shall abound,
So long as in nature the moon keeps its round.

V.

The Saviour now reigns, from sea unto sea
Hath set the whole earth from tyranny free ;
His glorious dominion from shore unto shore
Prevails, and shall flourish, till time is no more.
The

VI.

The nations once wild, whom no man could tame,
Now bow at his feet, and honour his name ;
And those who with malice did hate him the most,
Now humbly submissive would lick up the dust.

VII.

The kings of the isles choice presents do bring,
All nations submit to Jesus our king ;
Fam'd Tarshish, and Sheba, and Seba, all join
To offer their tribute, and to him resign.

VIII.

All nations and kings before him fall down,
All people rejoice that he wears the crown,
They serve him with pleasure, his laws they fulfil,
O how they're delighted with doing his will.

IX

He saveth the poor, who cry unto him,
The needy he spares, their souls doth redeem ;
From force and deception he sets them at rest,
Esteems their lives precious, and makes their souls
blest.

X.

Our Jesus, once slain, shall live evermore,
All people and tongues his name shall adore ;
The

The fine gold of Sheba to him shall be paid,
Daily shall be praises and pray'rs to him made.

XI.

The dry mountain tops, now corn grows upon,
The fruit doth appear like fam'd Lebanon ;
The citizens flourish like grafs of the field,
And fruits of the Spirit in plenty do yield.

XII.

The name of our King for ever shall last,
Till ages and times, and æra's are past ;
He bleffes all nations, all men call him blest.
All people are happy, for he hath given rest.

XIII.

Now blest be our God, JEHOVAH most high,
Whose works are all grace, pow'r, might, majesty,
Who only doth wonders ; his goodness proclaim ;
For ever and ever blest be his great name.

XIV.

The earth with his praise and glory is fill'd,
'Tis now come to pass, what God spake and
will'd.
Thine Lord is the kingdom, the glory and power ;
So be it, so be it, now, and evermore.

Thus

Thus they went singing on their way, greatly rejoicing in the goodness of the Lord, and giving thanks to his holy name.

By this time the sun had risen to its meridian height. Its rays however do not in these ages, as in former times, beat with violence upon the heads of the travellers, and cause them to experience pain or danger.

No more does the sun smite by day, or the moon by night. The influences of the heavenly bodies are all highly favourable to life, health and happiness. Men may now labour all day exposed to the direct rays of the sun, and feel no harm, nor fear any danger.

Now the friends ascended a piece of rising ground within view of the river, and behold, before them a beautiful palace appeared in sight! this belonged to one of the sons of the prince, to
whom

whom his father had given this northern part of his portion for a possession. The prince's son made this his principal residence, and he was there at that time. This young man feared the Lord, and served him daily in a most delightful manner. He had made himself well acquainted with the sacred pages, and the divine precepts were as familiar to him as his own name. This ornament of human nature spent no money in gaming, encouraged no boxing, fighting, nor horse racing; never fatigued himself and his horses in cruelly hunting defenceless animals. His palace was never filled with riotous persons, nor was obscenity, drunkenness or debauchery ever known there. No profane language was ever uttered by either master or servants. The name of God was not so much as mentioned without the deepest reverence,

ence, and most profound respect. This young prince, for such we may call him, was possessed of all princely virtues. He was just; he ran into no vain expences, which might involve him in debt, and thus torment his mind, and make his friends concerned for him. He contracted no debts without necessity, and then never beyond what he was able to pay before the return of the year, without either calling on his father or the people for assistance, or distressing the poorest of his tenants or servants. No man that did a day's work for him went home without his reward, and he was not above seeing him paid with his own eyes. He behaved in so just and upright a manner, and yet so affable, that all who had any concern with him revered his very name. None of his tradesmen ever complained of his keeping them
poor,

poor, or neglecting to pay their bills ; and on their parts they never overcharged him, being always sure of their money whenever they pleased ; nay, the Prince took such delight in justice and equity, that he would have all their bills regularly paid every quarter ; by which regularity his affairs were never the least embarrassed. The Prince being thus strictly just and regular, and living considerably within his income, had it in his power to be generous. Generosity is a princely virtue ; but it is a disgrace for a man, either prince or peasant, to pretend to be generous, unless he be just. He that does not pay his debts, has no right to give away the property of others, nor make a vain parade with what is none of his own. These are the maxims of our happy times, very different from what prevailed even so

E

late

late as the eighteenth century, when many persons, and even princes, set no bounds to their expences, who would have been poor enough but for the property of others, which they got into their hands in a way that our princes would reject with detestation. The doors of the Prince were always open to the traveller, the stranger, and the poor; a plenteous meal of plain wholesome food was daily provided for their accomodation; and if they needed cloathing, it was always ready for them. If they had any petitions to prefer to the Prince, they might have access to him. No haughty menials guarded their master like a state prisoner, refusing admittance to all those who could not afford them a large fee at the door. The servants of this Prince were quite of a different turn; they were contented with the wages

wages he allowed them, and never levied contributions upon those who entered the doors of the palace. They knew their master's will, and they faithfully performed it.

This Prince was in short, just what a *prince should be*, an example in word and deed to all about him. It would have formerly been thought impossible for a Prince to have employed his time, without the amusements of gaming, racing, hunting, going to balls, plays, assemblies, masquerades, routs, operas, &c. &c. &c. but ah ! how were those princes to be pitied, who lived in those corrupt and degenerate ages, who never were taught how to employ their time, and who always lived in hurry, bustle, confusion, uproar, and wild disorder ! How happy are the princes of our days, and how many agreeable ways they have of spending

their time ! This Prince, for instance, always rises a little before six in the morning, or soon enough to see that grand and noble sight, so seldom beheld by princes in former ages, viz. *the rising sun*. While he is putting on his clothes, a devout attendant reads the last account from the holy mountain, or what we may call the general orders of the great King in the camp of the saints ; which laws daily go forth, and are dispersed throughout the land and the world, by means of that noble art of printing, which was discovered to prepare the way for these times, and chiefly with a design to be employed in the service of the great King. As soon as he is dressed, he calls his household into the chapel, where a select portion of the Scriptures are read, and the orders for the day ; then a divine song of praise and thanksgiving

ing is fung, by all present, after which solemn prayers are offered up, for the prosperity of the great Sovereign, and the happiness of all his subjects throughout the world. This service, which lasts about an hour, from half past six till half past seven, is more ravishing and delightful than tongue can express. The hour of praise and adoration being over, the servants retire to their several departments, and the Prince goes into his study, and employs himself for half an hour alone, in what manner he thinks proper, until breakfast is prepared, which need not here be described. This takes up an hour, during which time, if he has no company, one reads to him the Gazette, printed at JEHOVAH SHAMMAH, or Jerusalem, which is now the largest city in the world, being ten miles square. In this Gazette, there

are no party squabbles, no falsehoods, but most entertaining accounts of rivers breaking out in the wilderness, and streams in the desert, of the thirsty land becoming a pool, &c. of the spreading of the knowledge of God, and the astonishing fruitfulness of the earth since the curse has been removed, and the amazing increase of the inhabitants, and many other articles of the like nature, which might formerly have been looked upon as fables, and fictions, but are now known as facts.

After breakfast, the Prince goes out to view his happy labourers, to bless them in the name of the Lord, not to scold, swear at them, nor curse them; they are glad to see him, for they are all faithful servants, and not eye servants. They receive his blessing with joy, and return the same with heart-felt affection. He surveys
their

their works, gives orders for farther improvement. And as he delights in agriculture or husbandry, having made it his particular study, he sometimes amuses himself by joining them in their delightful labours for an hour or two, which he finds to be much more pleasant and healthy, than it would be to dance all night in a heated room, full of offensive exhalations, and then to go out in the cold air, which used to kill many outright in those miserable ages, when such amusements were practised by way of exercise.

About noon he returns to his palace, and goes into his study, where the best books in all necessary, pleasant and useful sciences, containing the latest improvements, and the full perfection to which the arts have arrived in this blessed age, invite his attention. And here alone he might delight himself

for many years, in the most charming manner; infinitely superior such joys as these, to the dull unmeaning diversions of the card table, which formerly used to spoil all conversation, and almost render men as stupid as apes.

About one o'clock dinner is prepared; consisting of some of the best fish produced by the eastern sea, prepared various ways, so as to suit the tastes and appetites of all the company who dine with the Prince, which frequently is large; for he keeps an open table, and is full of hospitality. Besides fish, there is generally some choice meat of various kinds, but flesh is not eaten in that abundance that it formerly was, especially in some countries. But there is an amazing plenty of the choicest vegetables all the year round, fresh gathered out of the gardens and the fields; such vegetables as are far superior

rior to what could be produced in former times; and the same kinds that were formerly used, are now vastly sweeter, fresher, and more delightful to the taste, than formerly, and besides, they have lost all their disagreeable qualities, so that they agree with all persons. The choicest and best bread that ever was eaten, of various kinds, is brought daily to the table of the Prince. There is no such thing as adulterated bread in these days. The bread fruit, which is now common, and which most people prefer to the best wheat bread, is always at the table of the Prince. This fruit seems to have been created with a particular view to these and the following ages, when the earth is to be full of people, for there never can be any danger of famine while this continues; for this tree yields such amazing quantities of

fruit, that a few acres planted with it, would supply a large city with bread; and nothing more is necessary to prepare the fruit for use, than to roast it with fire; so that it is almost literally food without labour. The drink at the table of the Prince, is the best wine produced by the choice grapes of this happy country, whose mountains are so covered with vines, that, by a beautiful figure, they may be said to drop new wine, as the prophets of old prophesied, speaking of these days, "And it shall come to pass in that day, that the mountains shall drop new wine, and the hills shall flow with milk, and all the rivers of Judah shall flow with waters, and a fountain shall come forth from the house of JEHOVAH, and shall water the valley of Shittim." Joel, iii. 18. All which we now see fulfilled.

Besides,

Besides wine of various kinds produced by grapes, the Prince has store of various liquors produced by other fruits of the land, but no distilled liquors whatever, these being prejudicial to health, and are apt to intoxicate; neither is drink allowed to be made of any grain, which was intended as the food of men and beasts; but was formerly strangely perverted from its original design, in order to furnish the means of intoxication and drunkenness.

The Prince has also at his table daily, a quantity of water out of that river which flows forth from the house of the Lord, and which empties itself into the eastern sea. This water is of that nature, that it cures every symptom of disease, and it instantaneously quenches the most raging thirst; so that as a

common drink, there is nothing in the world that fully equals it; though at this time all the rivers, streams, fountains, wells, and springs on earth, are by the removal of the curse, and the divine blessing of the Lord, which now is plentifully given, rendered far more salubrious and pleasant than the very best of waters used formerly to be. But the water of this wonderful river has the pre-eminence above all others.

After dinner, there is such a rich variety of the choicest fruits as beggars all description :

The blushing peach, full grown in open day,
And rich Pomona's various fruitful stores,
Heap'd with unsparing hand upon the board.
Rich nectarines, and plumbs, of every kind,
Pears, cherries, apricots, and strawberries,
Choice melons, oranges, and richest pines,
The most delicious fruits of every realm,
All meet and flourish in this happy clime,
Where now, 'tis smiling summer all the year.

After

After dinner the Prince and his guests go into the chapel, where they adore the great Creator for his goodness; and hear some select portions of the sacred Scriptures read; and then for about half an hour, they are entertained with the choicest concert of vocal and instrumental music that can be conceived; the Prince himself joining in the chorus, praises God with all his heart. By this time it is three o'clock. The Prince then most commonly takes his company into his garden, which for its beauty, is like the garden of Eden, where the first parents of the human race were placed in their innocence.

————— “ In this pleasant soil
“ His far more pleasant garden God ordain'd;
“ Out of the fertile ground he caus'd to grow
“ All trees of noblest kind for sight, smell, taste;
“ And all amid them stood the tree of life,
“ High

“ High eminent, blooming ambrosial fruit

“ Of vegetable gold.

————— “ Thus was this place

“ A happy rural seat of various view ;

“ Groves, whose rich trees wept od’rous gums and

“ balm,

“ Others whose fruit burnish’d with golden rind

“ Hung amiable, Hesperian fables true,

“ If true here only, and of delicious taste ;

“ Betwixt them lawns, or level downs, and flocks

“ Grazing the tender herb, were interpos’d,

“ Or palmy hillock ; or the flow’ry lap

“ Of some irriguous valley spread her store,

“ Flow’rs of all hue, and without thorn the rose ;

“ Another side, unbrageous grotts and caves,

“ Of cool recess, o’er which the mantling vine

“ Lays forth her purple grape, and gently creeps

“ Luxuriant ; mean while murm’ring waters fall

“ Down the slope hills, dispers’d, or in a lake,

“ That to the fringed bank with myrtle crown’d

“ Her crystal mirror holds, unite their streams.

“ The birds their quire apply ; airs, vernal airs,

“ Breathing the smell of field and grove, attune

“ The trembling leaves, while universal Pan

“ Knit with the graces, and the hours in dance

“ Led on th’ eternal spring.” MILTON.

This

This description, grand as it is, does by no means come up to the grandeur, beauty, and plenty of the young Prince's garden. It contains many acres of land, and is divided into four quarters ; in one of which are contained all the different kinds of fruit-trees in the world, arranged in the most beautiful order, and in the midst of them, one of those trees that grow all along on the banks of that wonderful river, which issues from under the sanctuary. In another quarter of the garden, are collected and arranged all the beautiful flowers in the creation, and they flourish perpetually all the year round. In the third quarter are all the useful vegetables, growing in the most ample order. In the fourth quarter, are all sorts of trees and shrubs that can be found upon the globe, more than six thousand different kinds. Such a garden

den as this is almost an infinite source of delight. It is the whole vegetable creation in miniature : In this delightful paradise, the young Prince invites his guests to walk for an hour or two, and here they converse upon the works of creation, providence, and redemption, the wonders of this glorious period, and a thousand other entertaining and agreeable subjects, which are both pleasant and profitable, and for which they never can be at a loss, where so many thousand objects invite their attention, and awake their gratitude. Sometimes they almost forget themselves, and how the time passes, till the setting sun warns the Prince that his labourers are returning from their employments ; then he comes out of his garden, and his stewards pay them their wages, then set milk, butter, cheese, bread, and fruit ; before them and with
thankful

thankful hearts they eat and drink, and then return to their respective homes ; no quarrelling, brawling, contention, or dissatisfaction is found among them, they go singing and rejoicing home, where their families, with smiles on their faces, and gladness in their hearts, cordially receive them. There are no sour looks, nor harsh words ; all is love and mildness, innocence and heart-felt pleasure.

But to return to the Prince ; he now goes once more to the house of praise and prayer : he finds the service of God the most pleasant and delightful exercise in the world, as it always was to those who loved God truly, and served him sincerely, and with their whole hearts. In the evening service, which is rather the longest in the day, as the cares and labours of the day are over, and give more leisure, the Prince
himself

himself stands up and enumerates the mercies of the day past, and gives thanks to the Lord in the most delightful manner. There is then a new concert of music, which is generally accompanied with many fine voices; and all the Prince's musicians are persons of the most exalted but unaffected piety; so that the music is a thousand times sweeter, and more heavenly, and consequently a thousand times more charming and delightful than it was in former times, when it was rare to find any musicians, but such as were wicked, profane, and trifling persons.

After this most agreeable service is over, they enter into a beautiful apartment, where they sit and discourse in the most pleasant and agreeable manner until supper is prepared, which is exactly at eight o'clock. The table is set forth with great plenty of wholesome

some food, light and easy of digestion. The Prince, as master of the family, blesses the food, and with the greatest kindness and affability, invites the guests to partake of what is before them. At supper much agreeable conversation is introduced, but all with such decorum, that no anger, wrath, or any thing of the kind appears; all is love and friendly intercourse; and so delightful is the manner and matter of this familiar table-talk, in which each bears a part, that all at table seem charmed and ravished with the mental entertainment, more than with the excellent food prepared for their repast.

At nine they rise from table, and return to the apartment, where they spend an hour as they please, in reading the late publications, in conversation, in any thing that is generally agreeable,

agreeable, so that there is no uneasiness, stiffness, or weariness in the whole scene. At half after ten, the Prince retires to his bed chamber, meditates on the divine goodness, undresses and goes to bed, where, with a mind full of happiness, he falls asleep, and dreams of everlasting joys to come, of which what he now possesses, are only a fore taste. This is a hasty sketch of the manner in which this young Prince passes his time, but many variations from this plan take place according to circumstances, as must be supposed.

Now let any one say, whether the princes of our age want any vain amusements to kill their time, and waste their precious hours, which glide so pleasantly away, and pass without weariness or anxiety!

As the two friends approached this palace, the Prince beheld them and
sent

sent a messenger to invite them to dine, and spend the remainder of the day with him; which invitation they thankfully accepted, as they had a great desire to see the beautiful garden above described, and to behold the order of the young Prince's household, and the discretion with which he manages all his affairs. As they passed the remainder of their first day's tour with the Prince in the manner that has been briefly set forth above, we shall here take our leave of them for this night, and leave them to enjoy a sweet, serene and pleasant repose, in a chamber which opened directly to a part of that beautiful garden, where they had walked and conversed with the Prince in the afternoon, with such inconceivable satisfaction and heart-felt joy, which to describe is impossible.

ADVERTISEMENT.

THIS is only published as a specimen ; but if it should meet with considerable encouragement, the Author proposes, if his life and health should be preserved, to continue this work to about twelve Numbers, for the benefit of the rising generation.



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